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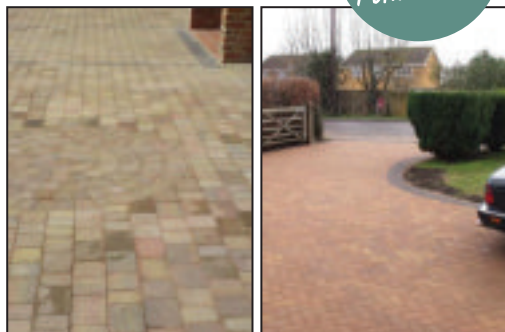


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## HONOURING WAR HEROES

### Chance to name streets in tribute to fallen soldiers

Hannah Somerville  
hannah.somerville@nqo.com

TOWNS and villages across North Oxfordshire are invited to suggest names for newly-built streets in memory of those who died in armed conflicts.

As part of the centenary of the First World War, parishes are being offered the chance to commemorate local people who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

It follows a motion passed unanimously by Cherwell District Council proposed by Banbury councillor Kieron Mallon, formerly of the Irish Guards.

Mr Mallon, the current president of Banbury's Royal British Legion, said: "As we head towards the centenary of the end of the First World War I ask this council to help parishes to commemorate those who did not return, and the families they left behind.

"We have a period of unprecedented housing growth and names will have to be found for hundreds of new streets.

"I hope we can offer those towns and villages the option of naming new streets after the fallen of the First World War and indeed other conflicts since."

The motion, which was seconded by Bicester councillor Dan Sames, states that Cherwell has committed to honour those from North Oxfordshire who died in the war.

It adds that the council will 'look favourably' on requests to name roads and streets in new developments after those who died or are recorded on local war memorials.

Mr Mallon added: "Those who have the names and have done the research and wish to record their gratitude will be helped by Cherwell during the planning process.

"Some parishes struggle to find suitable names for new roads and estates; this will be an option for them to consider.

"Perhaps it will also enable those parishes to research and update their records for posterity."

The Poppy Appeal in Oxfordshire is on track to be a record-breaker this year



Kieron Mallon at the war memorial in People's Park, Banbury

after fundraisers smashed their target across the county.

So far the Royal British Legion's appeal for 2017 has raised £607,000 throughout the county – soaring beyond the initial goal of £575,000.

The collection for the armed forces is set to break its all-time record by the time it draws to a close at the end of September.

For more information on naming streets and roads in Banbury and North Oxfordshire call Cllr Mallon on 01295 269177.

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# Man is held after chaining himself to council offices



**Hannah Somerville**  
hannah.somerville@nqo.com

A MAN was arrested after chaining himself to the offices of Cherwell District Council in a dramatic demonstration on Monday morning.

Police and crews from Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue were called to the scene at Bodicote House, just south of Banbury.

The man, thought to be a Banbury resident, had reportedly chained himself to a security gate and was blaring a loud alarm from a sound system.

Shortly after the man arrived, passer-by Wayne Steel said: "They've shut the building down. Everyone is just trying to stay away."

"Apparently he's opposing some planning decision; he's got a really thick

chain and has chained himself around the bars.

"The PA system is really loud, like an air raid [siren]."

Unconfirmed reports also stated the 'aggressive' man had brought a quantity of petrol, lighter fluid and gas canisters with him.

At about midday officers wearing boiler suits, helmets and ear defenders were spotted on the scene, equipped with an angle grinder.

The man was escorted from the building shortly afterwards.

Thames Valley Police spokeswoman Jessica Rodgerson said: "Police officers were called to a fear for welfare incident involving a man in the Cherwell District Council Building, White Post Road, Bodicote, at around 9.39am.

"Fire and ambulance services were also in attendance.

"Subsequently, a man was arrested at

the scene on suspicion of aggravated trespass and he is currently in custody." Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue spokesman Martin Crabtree added that the fire service had received a call at 9.58am and the incident was 'being led by police'.

It is not the first time Oxfordshire council offices have been targeted.

In June 2015 a man was sectioned under the Mental Health Act after setting fire to a number of buildings in South Oxfordshire including the offices of South Oxfordshire District Council, destroying several departments.

Andrew Main, then 47, had pleaded guilty to four counts of arson reckless to endanger life following the series of overnight fires that January.

Gas canisters were found at all three fire sites as well as at Main's home.

No-one at Cherwell District Council was available for comment.

## Swimmers get longer sessions

SWIMMERS in Banbury can now enjoy longer sessions at the Woodgreen Open Air Pool after the holiday timetable was launched last week.

From now until Sunday, September 3, public sessions will run from 10am until 1pm and from 2pm to 5pm throughout the week.

Day passes will also be offered on weekends and public sessions will be complemented with early bird and adult lane sessions at set times throughout the week.

Entry to the pool in mornings and afternoons will cost £4.05 for an adult, £2.70 for a child or senior citizen or £12.75 for a family ticket for two adults and three children.

For more information visit [leisurecentre.com/woodgreen-leisure-centre](http://leisurecentre.com/woodgreen-leisure-centre) or call 01295 262742.



Police and fire and rescue crews at Bodicote House after a man chained himself to a security gate, carrying petrol and a loud speaker to protest about a problem near his home

Pictures: Ed Nix

## Free careers fair

JOBSEEKERS in Banbury are invited to an employment careers fair this evening (Thursday) at the Army Reserve Centre in Oxford Road.

Scores of local businesses and big companies will be promoting their employment opportunities from 5pm to 7pm.

The free event is open to people of all ages, backgrounds and levels of experience.

Expert advice will also be available on building a CV, finding apprenticeships and planning a return to work.

For more information call 01295 221863 or email [info@banburyjobclub.com](mailto:info@banburyjobclub.com)

## Thank you very much for shredder gift



Banbury Canal Partnership volunteers with the Titan shredder along with Paul Davison of Aberdeen Assets Management

A NEW shredder gifted to volunteers by the owners of Castle Quay Shopping Centre is making light work of canal-side undergrowth.

Members of the Banbury Canal Partnership, which looks after the local stretch of the Oxford Canal, received the Titan Shredder from Aberdeen Asset Management.

The group works all year round to keep the iconic canal looking its best, keeping the towpath clear and safe by removing overhanging tree branches, hedges and undergrowth.

BCP chairman Colin Garnham-Edge said: "As most of the canal we look after is nowhere near a road, we have to use a small boat to collect all of the branches

and logs we cut and then transport them away from the work site to be shredded. This is time-consuming, which is a real problem when you have limited time from volunteers.

"Now we can do the shredding quickly where we work, saving both time and money. It's also great for the environment because we can turn these fragments into compost."

Cameron Murray of Aberdeen Asset Management added: "We are delighted to be working with BCP as they do vital maintenance to this beautiful canal.

"The shredder means that the hard-working volunteers can more easily keep the paths clear for walkers and cyclists to enjoy safely."

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## Get £500 to help make a one-minute film on your area

A GRANT scheme funding communities to make sure films about rural life have been launched.

The Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) Oxfordshire branch is offering up to £500 to at least five groups.

They will each be asked to make a one-minute film explaining what makes their area a 'wonderful place to live'.

The group said it is keen to hear from groups all over Oxfordshire.

Branch director Helen Marshall said: "Short films can have a strong impact and they are particularly good for sharing on social media."

"We think it's a good way to involve a younger audience in rural and community issues."

"And even an MP or, dare I say it, a journalist, should be able to find time to watch a one-minute film about a village or local area in their patch."

"We're very open to providing whatever support is needed."

"Obviously lots of people can now film footage on their smartphones, but the quality isn't always great so they may need help with better equipment or advice on how to get their messages right or how to edit the footage."

"We hope that we can use the process to build up expertise within each community so that they have the capacity to make further films in the future."

The group plans to show all the films at an event at the end of the project. Apply online at [cprexox.org.uk](http://cprexox.org.uk)

# Failure to take new £1 coin is hitting health trust hard

Georgina Campbell  
[gcampbell@nqo.com](mailto:gcampbell@nqo.com)

A HEALTH trust has lost tens of thousands of pounds because hospital parking meters have been out-of-action for more than a month.

Patients visiting the Horton General Hospital, in Banbury, have been enjoying free parking as the site's meters can not accept the new £1 coin.

Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (OUH) runs the car parks at the Horton as well as the John Radcliffe Hospital, Churchill Hospital and Nuffield Ortho-

paedic Centre and the money taken from paying patients goes back into services at the hospitals.

Usually visitors would have to pay £1.40 for an hour or up to £7 for more than four hours.

With about 200 parking spaces across the six car parks at the Horton, the trust could be losing about £1,365 every day or £9,555 for every week the machines have been out of action.

And it is expected that the free parking signs and machine covers will be up for a further 10 days.

Kaelum Neville, a spokesman for the trust, said: "Following the introduction of the new £1 coin, the trust has gone through a process of upgrading its parking machines to ensure a smooth transition for patients who travel to our hospitals by car."

"Unfortunately, we have been unable to complete this process at the Horton General Hospital in the time frame we had originally hoped."

"Therefore, since mid-June, we have temporarily suspended the parking charges at the hospital to ensure there is no inconvenience to our patients."

"We aim to have the issue resolved in the very near future."

Keep the Horton General campaign leader Keith Strangwood said having the parking machines remaining out-of-action was great news for the paying public but not for the trust's budget.

He added: "They are not on their own, it is happening all over the place."

"But it does make me wonder if it is part of their overall plan to turn the site into a new development."

"If they are not investing to upgrade the machines, it makes me think they want to develop on the site."

"It would not surprise me if they are delaying on purpose, to see what happens on August 10."

Next month Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) will make a final decision on the first phase of plans to change the county's NHS as a way of streamlining services to address a growing financial shortfall of £134m and the needs of an ageing population.

In the first phase, the CCG proposes to continue to downgrade the maternity services at the Horton to midwife-led status.



Car parking metres at the Horton General Hospital have been covered for more than a month

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## School's fun on community farm

YOUNGSTERS at Cropredy Primary School have taken part in a pioneering project to learn about where their food comes from.

The Banbury school in Station Road has been working alongside a neighbouring landowner and a firm to create a thriving new community farm.

Teacher and Key Stage Two leader Mike Wakeford, who was involved in organic growing before becoming a teacher, has spearheaded the project.

He said: "The benefits of outdoor learning are very powerful and I wanted to see how we could adapt the idea into a primary school setting. Although the school had a small allotment, I had a bigger vision of a project where both local people and

pupils could share ideas."

The school was offered a neighbouring patch of land by a resident whose daughter is a pupil at the school, along with donated seedlings and plants.

Banbury firm Grondon Waste Management also donated £4,000 from the Landfill Communities Fund to pay for the construction of polytunnels and schools.

Children are using the polytunnels to start sowing seeds earlier and protect vulnerable crops, with raised beds installed to make it easier for them to work.

Mr Wakeford added: "It has made a massive difference to our ability to grow things and it's helped us diversify the type of crops we can grow."

A team of regular volunteers

from the local area also helps out, while planting days and apple pressing days have been popular.

Grant funding was applied for by the school through environmental charity Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment (TOE2).

Director Fiona Danks said: "The farm is a very good example of an environmental and educational project that benefits children and people of all ages. We were happy to support its application for the grant and look forward to hearing all about the farm as it continues to grow in the future."

Ongoing funds to keep the farm project running include selling produce and selling breakfasts from the school playground to Cropredy Fairport Convention Festival campers in August.





Co-authors L-R: Jo Davies and Jacqui Peedell

# Book shares tips on living life to the full with dementia

Georgina Campbell  
gcampbell@nqo.com

AN INSPIRATIONAL woman wants to share her tips and tricks on how you can still live life to the full with dementia.

Jacqui Peedell, who lives in Hanwell near Banbury, was diagnosed several years ago with vascular dementia.

Now the 54-year-old mosaic artist wants to let others know that having dementia does not mean that you cannot still enjoy your life.

She teamed up with her former support worker Jo Davies, who lives near Chipping Norton, and over eight months the

pair penned a book *To Forget with Grace*.

Mrs Davies said: "Jacqui's philosophy is just wonderful and so inspirational. Sometimes when people hear the words dementia they think that is it."

"But Jacqui is living proof that life still goes on and you can still find pleasure and happiness in life while living with dementia."

"Her story is vibrant and she is brave and what I admire is her never-failing pragmatism in the face of life's ups and downs."

The book, which sells for £12 on Amazon, is a re-telling of Ms Peedell's story as a series of illustrated poems.

Dementia is considered 'young onset' when it affects people under 65 years of age.

Mrs Davies, who has been a support worker for Young Dementia UK for 13 years, added: "I remember it was quite a long process for the both of us."

"As I was at work during the day I would go to Jacqui's house in the evenings and she would give me a list of topics she would want to cover."

"She has such an eloquent way to describe her thoughts and feelings that I would write it all down and then go home and cherry pick the best things she said."

"Then I would go back the next evening and triple check with her, that what I had chosen was what she wanted - that was really important to me that she had the final say."

The 52-year-old said that in the book Ms Peedell would explain ways she would remember to take her pills or drive a particular route.

She added: "There is one bit in the book where Jacqui explains filling up a glass of squash."

"She'll drink the first third with her breakfast pills and then leave the glass on the side."

"Then at lunchtime she will see the glass two-thirds full and remember that she has to take her second pill."

"By the evening she'll have one third left and knows that she needs to take her last pill before bed."

To buy a copy of *To Forget with Grace* visit [amzn.to/2uORhBK](http://amzn.to/2uORhBK)

## Change of heart over seeing GP

WITH health services on the brink of change, a county-wide survey has revealed changing attitudes from patients when it comes to seeing a doctor.

Mounting pressures, lack of funds and increasing workloads has forced a re-think of the way primary care and GP services are provided across the county.

Now in its most recent survey, Healthwatch Oxfordshire has discovered that 72 per cent of patients would be happy to see an alternative medical professional other than their GP.

In its 'People's Experiences of Using GP Services in Oxfordshire' report, the watchdog also found that 39 per cent of patients had contacted a pharmacist before seeing a GP for medical advice.

Reasons cited for not seeking help from either a nurse practitioner, pharmacist or physiotherapist was because patients needed management of long-term conditions or the inability of a nurse to be able to prescribe medicine.

Director at Healthwatch Eddie Duller said: "There is a change of heart from the public in that they recognise that GPs are stretched and under pressure, like most people at work in today's world."

"Some are open to new ways of seeing the doctor, or at least getting some form of advice and treatment from practice nurses and the neighbourhood chemist."

The survey, completed by more than 400 patients across the county, show more people are waiting at least four weeks for an appointment than in 2014.

Mr Duller added: "That's just as well because medical help closest to home could change out of all recognition in the next five years because of a reorganisation being powered through by the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), which pays for GP and related services."

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Jacqui is living proof that life still goes on and you can still find pleasure and happiness in life while living with dementia



# Win a slice of a Gannett grant

Naomi Herring  
nherring@nqo.com

A CALL has gone out to good causes and community groups to try their luck at receiving thousands of pounds worth of funding.

Applications are now being welcomed for charities to apply for donations of between £5,000 and £10,000 from the *Banbury Cake's* parent company Gannett Media.

Money has been awarded to a wide variety of causes annually across the county since the scheme, part of the Gannett Foundation, was started in the late 1990s.

Last year almost £30,000 was dished out to worthy causes after trustees sifted through a host of applications from Oxfordshire.

*Banbury Cake* managing editor Sara Taylor said: "Since its launch, the Gannett Foundation grant has helped scores of good causes in Oxfordshire and given vital support to local projects in need of funding.

"With money tight for many at the moment, this is a fantastic opportunity to get cash for a project which could make a difference to so many people.

"To have been able to help guarantee the future of so many projects is a privilege and we look forward to helping even more this year.

"It is great to also see that trustees have expanded the criteria to also welcome more organisations and projects such as one day events which Oxfordshire regularly boasts.

South & Vale Carers was awarded £5,700 last year; left to right, Christina Pusey, with Louis, 15, Paige, 13, managing director John Tabor, Matthew, 13, Bailey, 14, Aiden, 14, and Sophie, 13



Base 33 was awarded £7,000; left to right, CEO Wendy Dawson, trainee youth worker Chris Osborn, young person Lottie Walker, team leader Keith Down, Cllr Jane Doughty and youth worker Karlos Pierce



"I would urge anyone interested to look at the foundation and give serious consideration to applying."

A recipient of £5,700 last year was the South and Vale Young Carers, who work to give something back to hundreds of young people devoting their time to looking after others.

Other successful applicants included Blackbird Leys-based RAW workshop which employs and trains people facing disadvantage by creating garden furniture and other items, Witney-based Base 33 Youth Charity, Bicester-based Friends of Bardwell special educa-



St Peter's Playgroup, at St Peter's Church, First Turn, Wolvercote, was awarded £4,300 to put artificial grass on an outside play area



The Raw Workshop, in Blackbird Leys, was awarded £8,420. Pictured is managing director Rick Mower and some of the craftsmen who make the charity's range of products

tion school, and St Peters playgroup in Wolvercote.

Applications are now open for this year and must be submitted on the approved application form, which can be downloaded from [oxford-mail.co.uk/news/community/gannettfoundation/](mailto:oxford-mail.co.uk/news/community/gannettfoundation/)

Completed forms should be sent to [gannettapplications@nqo.com](mailto:gannettapplications@nqo.com) or by post to *Oxford Mail*, Newsquest Oxfordshire & Wiltshire, Osney Mead, Oxford, Oxfordshire, OX2 0EJ.

The closing date is 5pm on Monday, October 9.

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# Making trivial calls to struggling 999 centre 'putting lives at risk'

Georgina Campbell  
gcampbell@nqo.com

A FORMER 999 call handler has urged people to stop making trivial calls after witnessing first-hand how they left the ambulance service struggling to cope with demand.

Karen Frederick thought she had landed her 'dream job' when she became a call handler at the Bicester hub for South Central Ambulance Service (SCAS) in 2015.

The 48-year-old, who lives in the town, was passionate about helping others and had previously worked as an emergency medical technician.

But as the 'pressure cooker situation' boiled over she would answer hundreds of calls a day and have to apologise to patients waiting hours for an ambulance.

She eventually left the job in May. Some of the calls were from people asking for help with trivial issues such as removing contact lenses and tampons.

She said: "It is not uncommon on a shift for people to be waiting several hours for an ambulance."

"What I found so frustrating and heartbreaking was having to explain to people who are left waiting that an ambulance is not on its way anytime soon."

"We had a board in the office which showed the number of calls that were stacking up, waiting to be answered."

"That could be someone who is having a cardiac arrest, just waiting to be answered and you are on the phone to someone who is not in a life-threatening situation."

Aside from pumping more money and resources into the ambulance trust, which she said 'is doing its absolute best', Ms Frederick believes that people need to know when they should be calling 999 and non-emergency 111.

She said: "We will get calls where someone has cut their finger or hand quite badly."



The SCAS call handling centre in Bicester; right, Karen Frederick in her South Central Ambulance Uniform

"They want a paramedic to come out to see it but paramedics are not able to treat and close wounds."

"People need to realise that sometimes calling 999 might not be the best solution for them."

Ms Frederick, who has helped to deliver nine babies over the phone, also criticised NHS England's plans to scrap current ambulance response targets.

The new classification would see only eight per cent of calls defined as life-threatening – including when a person is not breathing or their heart has stopped.

It was revealed last week that stroke patients could be waiting up to 40 minutes for an ambulance following the overhaul.

She added: "My worry is, when we dealt with calls that were classed as non life-threatening, ambulances would quite often be diverted from their call to life-threatening calls that would come in."

"Would this happen to stroke and heart patients who will no longer be in the life-threatening category? [under the new classification]"

"Will an ambulance be on its way and then be suddenly diverted else-

where? I worry this will be detrimental for patients."

SCAS provides emergency care for four million people in Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Hampshire, covering about 3,554 square miles.

Trust spokeswoman Michelle Archer said SCAS has a demand management process in place that is activated when the service is under pressure.

She said: "All calls are assessed using NHS Pathways and all high risk patients such as those requiring specialist advice from call han-

dlers, for example CPR advice or child birth instructions, are managed as normal irrespective of demand levels."

"Only low acuity calls requiring routine advice are shortened and the call handlers explain to these callers that they will not remain on the line and need to take the next 999 call."

"This ensures that those callers waiting to be answered are dealt with as quickly as possible to reduce the risk for those waiting who could be in a life-threatening situation."

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# Uplifting cross-culture love

**THE BIG SICK** (15, 120 mins)  
Comedy/Drama/Romance. Kumail Nanjiani, Zoe Kazan, Holly Hunter, Ray Romano, Adeel Akhtar, Anupam Kher, Zenobia Shroff, Bo Burnham, Aidy Bryant, Kurt Braunohler. Director: Michael Showalter.

JUST when it seemed that heartfelt romantic comedies might be in terminal decline and doomed to labour on life support, along comes director Michael Showalter's uplifting and bittersweet tale of cross-cultural love.

Based on the real-life courtship of Pakistani-American stand-up comedian Kumail Nanjiani and his wife Emily V Gordon, who co-wrote the script, *The Big Sick* is a small, perfectly formed gem, which is polished to a dazzling glister by a superb ensemble cast.

Nanjiani plays himself to deadpan perfection and he catalyses molten screen chemistry with co-star Zoe Kazan.

Their fledgling romance is sketched in delicate strokes and when this amour fou hits an almighty speed bump that compels Emily to tearfully confide, "You make me sad inside my heart," we are devastated like her paramour.

The two-hour running time allows Nanjiani and Kazan to populate each unfussy frame with flawed, believable and endearing characters, who don't always know what to say to ease the pain of the people they adore.

Trickles of saltwater tears are mopped up with swathes of sincere, warm-hearted humour. If laughter is the best medicine then a spoonful of Showalter's film is a tonic that leaves the sweetest feeling.

*The Big Sick* wears its easily broken heart on its sleeve and elicits roaring belly laughs from the central duo's predicament. Director Showalter nimbly sidesteps genre clichés, allowing the pithy and occasionally withering words to speak louder than his actions.

**RATING: 9/10**



Zoe Kazan and Kumail Nanjiani appear in *The Big Sick*

**GIRLS TRIP** (15, 122 mins)  
Comedy/Drama/Romance. Regina Hall, Queen Latifah, Jada Pinkett Smith, Tiffany Haddish, Mike Colter, Larenz Tate, Kofi Siriboe. Director: Malcolm D Lee.

SUGAR and spice and all things nice – that's not what the girls in director Malcolm D Lee's raucous comedy are made of.

Indeed, the central quartet of fun-loving forty-somethings are more likely to smear the ingredients of the 19th century nursery rhyme over their naked body parts, or chug them down with absinthe.

*Girls Trip* performs a brazen gender-flip on *The Hangover* and dispenses four friends to New Orleans to make embarrassing memories they can laugh about for the rest of their lives.

Scriptwriters Kenya Harris and Tracy Oliver don't spare the characters' blushes, including one delirious sequence involving a deluge of bodily fluids that gives new meaning to raining on someone's parade.

The ace in the film's hole is comedian Tiffany Haddish, who blows all of her co-stars off the screen with a virtuoso performance reminiscent of Melissa McCarthy's scene-stealing turn in *Bridesmaids*.

Hurricane Haddish wreaks maximum devastation when her party girl demonstrates how to

satisfy a man by vigorously simulating the perfect technique using a banana and a holed out grapefruit.

Somehow, Queen Latifah and Jada Pinkett Smith maintain poker faces in the eye of that particular storm. I was doubled up in exquisite hysteria, tears of joy streaming down my face. *Girls Trip* is a delirious guilty pleasure.

Ryan (Regina Hall), Sasha (Latifah), Lisa (Pinkett Smith) and Dina (Haddish) are lifelong friends, whose busy schedules have kept them apart for five years.

Lisa is recovering from a painful divorce from her cheating husband while journalist Sasha has abandoned her moral compass to pay the rent with a salacious celebrity gossip blog.

Ryan and her husband, retired American football player Stewart Pierce (Mike Colter), are on the verge of polishing their brand to a lustre with a multimillion-dollar TV deal off the back of her best-selling book, *You Can Have It All*.

Single mother Lisa has been chaste for too long in fun-loving Dina's eyes, so when a handsome student (Kofi Siriboe) takes an interest, the other girls encourage Lisa to enjoy a lusty fling.

Lee's picture is an all-you-can-eat buffet of naughty but nice.

**RATING: 7/10**



Queen Latifah as Sasha, Jada Pinkett Smith as Lisa, Tiffany Haddish as Dina and Regina Hall as Ryan in *Girls Trip*

## Cake Bookworm

**The Best Kind Of People** by Zoe Whittall is published in hardback by Hodder & Stoughton, priced £16.99 (ebook £7.99).

CANADIAN novelist and poet Zoe Whittall's latest novel *The Best Kind of People* examines the painful aftershocks of a rape accusation.

Set in the fictional wealthy town of Avalon Hills, Connecticut, life as they know it is turned upside down for the Woodbury family when father and popular science teacher, George Woodbury is accused of sexually assaulting multiple female students.

Having saved the school from a shooting 10 years prior, the town are initially dumbfounded that their local hero could be capable of such heinous acts. But disbelief quickly transitions to hate.

George's trauma nurse wife Joan receives daily public harassment and when their straight-A student daughter Sadie is abandoned by her friends and bullied, she rapidly descends into a lifestyle of casual sex and drug use.

While we are never fully allowed into George's conscience, Whittall

dives into the waspy minds of Joan, Sadie and various locals and, through their inner turmoil, George's true character is revealed drip by drip.

Dealing with the issues of rape, school shootings, male rights activism and mass hysteria, *The Best Kind Of People* is, if nothing else, timely.

Relevant, believable, but never feeling opportunistic, Whittall is somehow able to explore these unpleasant themes both boldly and with sensitivity. Engrossing, you will be left wondering just who George is, and indeed, who are you.

**9/10**

**Don't Cry** by Mary Gaitskill is published in paperback by Serpent's Tail, priced £8.99 (ebook £4.31).

THE best of the stories in this new collection of shorts, from the author of *Veronica* and *Two Girls*, *Fat And Thin*, are very, very good.

The stand-out is *The Arms And Legs Of The Lake*, in which Gaitskill weaves a painfully intricate and absorbing drama from the perspectives of a group of strangers

on a train journey to Syracuse, NY.

Deftly, the narrative drifts in and out of the viewpoints of, among others, a damaged African-American Iraq war returnee, a middle-aged English teacher and peace activist, and Carter Brown, a World War II vet who can't see the point of this more recent war.

Intimate and unsparring, the control of perspective and acuity of insight give it the rich, satisfying feel of a novel.

In another story, College Town, 1980, we meet a group of shiftless flatmates adrift at the start of the Reagan era; the desultory vibe contrasts with the pitiless penetration of the observations, just as the characters' debates about personal power ring hollow in their world of endless coffee jags and petty vendettas.

Some of the other stories are more conceptual in nature. But these work less well, especially when contrasted with the ruthless intimacy, wonderful control of viewpoint and psychological depth achieved by the others.

**7/10**

Up and at 'em

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# Think before leaving kids home alone this summer

Michael Race  
mrace@nqo.com

MORE children across Oxfordshire are being left home alone, a child protection charity says, issuing a warning to parents as the summer holidays begin.

The NSPCC says it has referred an 'increasing number of cases' to the police and children's services in the county after receiving calls and emails from members of the public worried about children left to fend for themselves.

As the school summer break starts, the children's charity has revealed that specialist counselors on its 24-hour helpline made 35 referrals to the authorities in Oxfordshire during last year financial year – up from 33 referrals the year before.

There were also 11 calls and emails from people in the county seeking advice about children being left home alone.

Worried callers to the NSPCC Helpline have reported children being left alone overnight and young children left to feed themselves and use dangerous kitchen equipment.

One caller who phoned the NSPCC Helpline said: "They're leaving the kids alone at all hours of the



Peter Wanless, NSPCC chief executive

day, from early in the morning until late at night.

"They have to fend for themselves and make their own meals and use the cooker and other dangerous kitchen equipment.

"When I go around to check on them they pretend that their mum is in the house, but I don't

believe she is. I never see her."

Although the law does not give a minimum age at which children can be left on their own, parents and carers can be prosecuted for neglect if children are put at risk of suffering or injury.

The NSPCC is warning that although a child may seem responsi-

ble enough to be left alone without supervision, parents and carers should think carefully whether they would be able to cope with unexpected situations such as an emergency, a stranger calling at the house, or being hungry.

The NSPCC is urging parents to read its home alone guide which includes questions they should ask themselves and their children before deciding to leave a child unsupervised.

Chief Executive Peter Wanless said: "Deciding if a child is ready to be left on their own can be a very difficult decision and the summer holidays can be a difficult time for parents and carers as they face increasing childcare pressures.

"Although there is no minimum age, no child should be left on their own if there is any risk they will come to harm.

"Children mature at their own rate so it's really important parents think carefully about what is right for their child.

"Children shouldn't be left on their own if they are not happy with being left, or if they don't know what to do in an emergency."

To help parents and carers who may be considering whether or not to leave their child on their own for the first time this summer, the NSPCC is issuing guidance on leaving children home alone on its website.

## Police wait over funding formula

NO DECISIONS have been made on the amount of money Thames Valley Police will receive from the Government after concerns were raised the force could lose out in compared to others policing major cities.

Anthony Stansfeld, the police and crime commissioner for Thames Valley, does not think the force will miss out on cash in a reformed funding formula, but admitted he expects bigger cities to receive up to £100m more.

He said the force could recruit up to 2,000 officers if it was given the same funding as forces which police cities such as Liverpool and Birmingham are expected to receive in the new police grant.

But the Home Office said a decision on the formula was yet to be made.

A spokeswoman said: "The Government is undertaking a period of detailed engagement with policing partners and independent experts on the police funding formula. Proposals will not be implemented without a public consultation."

Mr Stansfeld said he understood why big cities were handed more cash, especially in the wake of recent terror attacks.

Funding reforms were ordered due to statistical errors in grants in November 2015.

## Fall shuts M40

THE M40 was closed in both directions after a woman fell from a bridge near Banbury.

Roads Policing officers shut the carriageway at junction 11 while the emergency services were called to the scene at about 1.40pm on Thursday.

South Central Ambulance Service spokesman David Gallagher said: "A caller reported an adult female had fallen from a bridge over the M40 and possibly been struck by a car."

He added she was taken to hospital in a serious but stable condition.

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## Reader Offers Quality holidays & breaks at affordable prices



### Strawberry Fields, Penny Lane & the Cavern Club

Take a trip back to the heady days of the Fab Four  
3 days from £185.00, 15 & 22 September 2017

Enjoy a nostalgia-packed Beatles Coach Tour of the places where the history of popular music was changed forever, see inside the Cavern Club and journey on the legendary "Ferry 'cross the Mersey".

#### Highlights & inclusions

- A 'Beatles Coach Tour' and entrance to the Cavern Club
- Leisure time in Liverpool
- A journey on the "Ferry 'cross the Mersey"
- Coach travel from the local area
- Two nights' dinner, bed and English breakfast accommodation at a three-star standard hotel in the North West area
- Escorted by a friendly tour manager

### Ludlow, Shrewsbury & Secrets of Shropshire

Medieval treasures and scenic wonders!  
3 days from £169.00, 1 September 2017

Explore three wonderful and varied towns and discover the unspoilt, breathtaking beauty of Shropshire with its varied and lovely landscapes of hills, rolling farmland and river valleys dotted with sleepy black-and-white timbered towns and villages.

#### Highlights & inclusions

- Time to explore Bridgnorth, Ludlow and Shrewsbury
- A visit to the Ironbridge Gorge
- Coach travel from the local area
- Two nights' dinner, bed and English breakfast accommodation at a hotel in the West Midlands area
- Escorted by a friendly tour manager

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# Oxfordshire Listings

## Events

### THURSDAY

**Dinosaur World:** Banbury Museum, Spiceball Park Road, Banbury. Travel back in time to make your own dinosaur land, fossil collage, dinosaur animals, dinosaur mask and even a hatching dinosaur baby. 10.30am-12.30pm or 2-4pm. No need to book. £2 per child. 01295 753752.

**Gosford All Blacks Pre Season Training:** Gosford All Blacks Rugby Club, Stratfield Brake, Kidlington. Gosford All Blacks are looking for new players to join there senior teams. 7pm. Free.

**Didcot Railway Centre Exhibition Day:** Didcot Railway Centre, Didcot. Explore the collection of Steam Engines in the 1930s Engine Shed. 10.30am-4pm. £5.50 adult/£5 senior/£4.50 child.

**Drayton Sequence Dance Club:** Drayton Village Hall, Lockway, Drayton. 7.30pm. £2.

**Ramblers walk:** Lambert Hotel, Aston Rowant. 7½-mile walk via Aston Wood and Aston Rowant including a climb up escarpment with one steep descent. 10am. 07904 276243.

**Walk for Health:** Vale & Downland Museum, 19 Church Street, Wantage. 10am. Free. 01235 771447.

**Wantage Tales:** Vale & Downland Museum, 19 Church Street, Wantage. With local historian Trevor Hancock. 7.30pm. £6. 01235 771447.

**Wildlife in the Arboretum:** Harcourt Arboretum, Peacock Lodge, Nuneham Courtenay. Join Ben Jones, Curator of the Arboretum, to explore the wildlife at its peak in the height of summer, including insects, pond life and wildflowers. 7-9pm. £15.

### FRIDAY

**Cornerstone's Eighth Annual Beer & Music Festival:** Station Road, Didcot. Friday to Sunday. Bands, entertainment, variety of ales, ciders and BBQ. Free.

**Recruitment Open Day/Job Fair:** Chilterns Court Care, York Road, Henley on Thames. 10am. Free. 01608 642364.

**SOFO Holiday Kids Club:** Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, Park Street, Woodstock. Summer Fun! Games, outdoor fun, crafts and quizzes. 10am-12.30pm. 10am. £8. 01993 810210.

**Wantage Country Market:** Vale & Downland Museum, 19 Church Street, Wantage. Wantage WI. 9.30am. Free. 01235 771447.

**Wantage LEGO® Expo – Value of Play Seminar:** Vale & Downland Museum, 19 Church Street, Wantage. Listen to Sylwia Korsak a cyber wellness trainee counsellor, talk about the value of play for families and have your questions answered. Space is limited so pre book your place at [www.thevalueofplay.eventbrite.com](http://www.thevalueofplay.eventbrite.com) 2pm. Free. 01235 771447.

### SATURDAY

**Basket Weaving:** Earth Trust Centre, Little Wittenham. Create several small baskets or one larger structure in this two-day workshop with Catherine Tregaskes. 9.30am. £115. 01865407792.

**Bicester & Kidlington Ramblers:** The church, Naunton, Bicester. A moderately difficult 10-mile circular walk. Starting at the church in Naunton, the walk includes the Slaughters, the Windrush river, passing Bourton-on-the water. Bring a picnic lunch. Registered Assistance Dogs only. 10am. 07821 147891.

**Burford Antiques Fair:** Burford School, Cheltenham Road, Burford. 10am. £3.50. 07774 850044.

Carterton Lions Car Boot Sale: Carterton Recreation Ground, Alvescot Road, Carterton. 8am. Stall £6/£12, buyers

free. 01993 772241.

**Bushcraft Day Course:** Wytham Woods, c/o Conservator's Office, Sawmill Yard, Keeper's Hill, Wytham. Spend a day learning Bushcraft. You will learn about fire lighting, shelter, cordage and much more. 10am-6pm. £85.

**Dressmaking Weekend Course:** Kennington Village Centre, Kennington Road, Kennington. Learn how to use a commercial pattern and make a skirt to fit you. Includes zip, darts, hems etc. 11am-6pm. £129 for the two-day course.

**Film and Splash:** Amey Theatre, Park Road, Abingdon. Enjoy a fun swim session in our swimming pool followed *Finding Dory* (PG) in the Amey Theatre. The morning begins with swimming from 9.00am-10.30am at the Abingdon School Sports Centre and the film will begin promptly at 11am. £6/£4. 01235 849063.

**Sunshine Cat Rescue Book Sale:** Tolsey Museum, 126 High Street, Burford. 9am. Free. 01993 831279.

**To see a Fine Lady... The story of the Fine Lady statue at Banbury Cross:** Banbury Museum, Spiceball Park Road, Banbury. Discover from Rosy Burke the story of the making of the statue, some of its lesser known features and how the fine lady came to ride again to Banbury Cross. 2.30pm. £5. 01295 753752.

**Village Fete:** Harwell Rectory Lawn, Church Lane, Harwell. Harwell Gardeners' Club. 2pm. Free. 01235 832802.

**Walk (Fieldpaths):** War Memorial Car Park, East Hanney. SU414929 8.4 miles. A walk in the river Ock flood plain, via Denchworth, Charney Bassett and West Hanney. We pass three mills ranging from ancient to very modern. Joint walk with Ramblers. Bring refreshments and a picnic. Possible pub stop. Some walking on minor roads with fast traffic. Assistance dogs only. 10am. 07845 401839.

**Willowbrook Farm Festival:** Willowbrook Farm, Hampton Gay, Kidlington. Bringing together workshops and activities in nature, arts, crafts, music, sports, dancing and more. 9am. £22.50-£36.

### SUNDAY

**National Garden Scheme:** Merton College, Merton Street, Oxford. Ancient mulberry said to have associations with James 1. Specimen trees, long mixed border, recently established herbaceous bed. View of Christ Church meadow over town wall. Wheelchair access.. 2pm. Adult £5; children free.

**Oxford Love Music Hate Racism at The People's Fair:** Florence Park, Rymers Lane, Cowley. Head down to The People's Fair and celebrate Oxford's diverse community with music from Love Music Hate Racism, set up in 2002 in response to rising levels of racism and electoral successes for the Nazi British National Party (BNP). 11am. Free. 07890081211.

**Ramblers walk:** Village Hall car park, Oving, Buckinghamshire. 10½-mile walk via North Marston and Quainton. Bring a picnic. 10am. 01865 708736.

**South Leigh Summer Fayre:** South Leigh Football Field, Station Road, South Leigh. A traditional village fayre for all the family including the Oxfordshire Home Guard, belly dancers and family dog show. 12pm. £1/car. 01993 771346.

**Summer Sunday Cream Teas:** The Reading Room, The Green, Combe. 2.30-5pm. 01993898348.

**Walk (Fieldpaths):** Enstone School Playing Field, Enstone. From A44 turn left onto B4022, signposted Charlbury, turn right at next crossroads (Cox Lane) after 0.25 miles turn left into Lidstone Road, school entrance is on right. SP376242 7 miles. A lovely walk taking in Dean and

To get an event of any kind listed here, enter the details into our easy-to-use online database at [thisisoxfordshire.co.uk/events](http://thisisoxfordshire.co.uk/events)

Please add your event no later than ten days before the day of publication.

Lidstone. Bring refreshments for en route break, pub at end of walk. The A44 is crossed twice. Assistance dogs only. 10am. 07501 957625.

**Wheatley Afternoon Car Boot Sale:** Waterstock Golf Club, Off junction 8a M40 near to motorway services, Thame Road, Wheatley. 1pm. Sellers £5, buyers 50p after 1pm (early entry £1). 07874 855514.

### MONDAY

**Clumps Club:** Earth Trust Centre, Little Wittenham. Experience some wild adventures in this holiday club for 7-11 year olds. Different outdoor activities each day. 9am. £30 per day. 01865 407792.

**Women's Self Defence and Fitness Class:** The Pavilion, Roosevelt Road, Long Hanborough. Ages from 13 upwards welcome. 8pm. £5. 07834 022463.

### TUESDAY

**Archaeological Finds Surgery:** Banbury Museum, Spiceball Park Road, Banbury. Have your archaeological finds identified and recorded by the Finds Liaison Officer for Oxfordshire and West Berkshire, Anni Byard. 10am. Free. 01295 753752.

**Critical situation of drinking water supply in Gaza:** Oxford Town Hall, St Aldate's, Oxford. The challenges of living and working in the Gaza Strip. Talk by Dr Shatat which will inform the audience about the dire situation faced by the majority of the population in the Gaza Strip, specifically in relation to water supply. Dr Shatat will also discuss the difficulties of working and living in Gaza, and the inherent difficulties of travelling outside of the Gaza Strip. 7.30pm. Free. All welcome.

**Dinosaur World:** Banbury Museum, Spiceball Park Road, Banbury. Travel back in time to make your own dinosaur land, fossil collage, dinosaur animals, dinosaur mask and even a hatching dinosaur baby. 10.30am-12.30pm or 2-4pm.No need to book, purchase your ticket from the museum shop on the day. £2 per child. 01295 753752.

**Flower Demonstration:** Northcourt Centre, Northcourt Road, Abingdon. Abingdon Flower Club will be hosting a demonstration by Keri Walker, and there will also be a members' display to depict Nursery Rhymes. 7.15pm. 07711 263937.

**Gosford All Blacks Pre Season Training:** Gosford All Blacks Rugby Club, Stratfield Brake, Kidlington. Gosford All Blacks are looking for new players to join there senior teams. 7pm. Free.

**Tea Dance:** Woodstock Social Club, 44 Oxford Street, Woodstock. 2pm. £2. 01993 811473.

**Water World:** Banbury Museum, Spiceball Park Road, Banbury. Fancy making your very own 'junk model' canal boat? How about making your very own piece of canal art? Would you like to travel back in time to become a boatman/woman? What about using your detective skills to uncover the watery secrets in our museum trail and then settling back to stories about the pirates who sailed the Oxford Canal? Well this is the event for you. Drop in any time between 11am-4pm. £4 per child. 01295 753752.

### WEDNESDAY

**SOFO Family Open Afternoons:** Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, Park

Street, Woodstock. Chance to make something special and take it home. 2-4pm. £2 per child. Free. 01993 810210.

**Viva Salsa Dance:** Corn Exchange, Market Square, Witney. 7.30pm. £6. 07905 484077.

## Music

### THURSDAY

**High Street Methodist Church, High Street, Witney:** Lunchtime Recital – Desert Island Discs. Annabel Molyneaux, mezzo-soprano, Peter Cowdrey, piano, Paul Molyneaux, poetry. Free. 12.30pm. 01993 702296.

**The Wheatsheaf, 129 High Street, Oxford:** Chorusgirl, Easter Island Statues, Schande Swiss Concrete. Indie pop & rock. 7.30pm. £5.

**The Cock Inn, The Green, Combe:** Nick Gill. Classic jazz and ragtime piano/vocals. 8pm. Free.

**Joe's Bar & Grill, 260 Banbury Road, Oxford:** The Oxford Beatles. Local fab four covers band. 8pm. Free.

**Yarnton Garden Centre, Sandy Lane, Yarnton:** Oxford Classic Jazz Trio. 1-4pm. Free.

### FRIDAY

**Exeter College Chapel, Turl Street, Oxford:** Harpsichord Recital by Candlelight: Bach, Beer & Brandy. £15, £14 (OAP), £10 (students). 8:pm. 01865 305305.

**The Northcourt, Abingdon Utd, Northcourt Road, Abingdon:** The Floyd Effect. Pink Floyd tribute. £17 advance, £19 door. 7.30pm. 01235 203203.

**Tap Social Movement, 27 Curtis Industrial Estate, North Hinksey Lane, Oxford:** Art Theeas. Local rock trio. 8pm. Free.

**The Bullingdon, 162 Cowley Road, Oxford:** The Bluetones. Britpop quartet on UK tour. 7pm. £15.

**The Wheatsheaf, 129 High Street, Oxford:** MSRY, Promethean Reign, Osca, Ape. Rock/metal. 8pm. £5.

**Cockadood, Nuneham Courtenay:** The Magic of Opera. Opera Anywhere. 7.30pm. £38.

### SATURDAY

**Cowley Workers SC, Between Towns Road, Cowley:** Rhythm Street. Party band. 9pm. 01865 772970.

**Cricketers, Temple Road, Cowley:** Doghouse. Rock and blues band. Free. 9pm. 01865 718459.

Marston Royal British Legion, Hadow Road, Marston: Jeff Denton. Free. 9pm. 01865 243991.

**Tiddy Hall, Shipton Road, Ascott-Under-Wychwood:** Under the Wychwood & The Ponderosa. Double bill and live recording. Wychwood Folk Club. Free. 7.30pm. 01993 831427.

**The Cellar, Frewin Court, Oxford:** The Demoiselles, Fuji, Jeremesa, The Kites. Local rock bands. 7pm. £7.

**Tap Social Movement, 27 Curtis Industrial Estate, North Hinksey Lane, Oxford:** Fallen Angels. Rock and indie covers trio. 9pm. Free.

**The Seacourt Bridge, West Way, Botley:** Hippie Haze. 9pm. Free.

### SUNDAY

**Exeter College Chapel, Turl Street, Oxford:** Baroque Music by Candlelight: The Musical Gems of Saxony. £18, £16

(OAP), £12 (students). 8pm. 01865 305305.

**The Wheatsheaf, 129 High Street, Oxford:** Jesters, Purple May, Mark Atherton & Friends, Twizz Twangle and Mark Solлис. 3.30-8.30pm. Free.

**Victoria Arms, Mill Lane, Marston:** Uprooted Duo. Free. 3pm. 01865 241382.

**Oxford Wine Café, 38 South Parade, Summertown:** Zena James Trio. Jazz. 6.30-9pm. Free.

### MONDAY

**Rose Revived, Newbridge Witney:** Alvin Roy's Reeds Unlimited. Jazz. Free. 7.30pm. 01865 300221.

**Sheldonian Theatre, Broad Street, Oxford:** Mahler Symphony No. 6 - City of Sheffield Youth Orchestra. £12/£6 (21 and under). 7.30pm.

### TUESDAY

**Exeter College Chapel, Turl Street, Oxford:** Baroque Music by Candlelight: Capriccio Veneziano. £18, £16 (OAP), £12 (students). 8pm. 01865 305305.

**St Aldate's Tavern, 108 St Aldate's, Oxford:** Osprey & Friends. Local rockers. 8pm. Free.

### WEDNESDAY

**All Saints' Church, Lime Walk, Headington:** All Saints' Summer Festival of Music & The Arts featuring Olivia Lewis, soprano. Free. 8pm.

**Exeter College Chapel, Turl Street, Oxford:** Baroque Music by Candlelight: The Songbird Ascending. £20, £18 (OAP), £12 (students). 8pm. 01865 305305.

## Theatre

**The Bullingdon, 162 Cowley Road, Oxford:** Jul 29, Andrea Hubert, Brian Higgins, Ray Badran and Jason John Whitehead. Glee comedy. 7.45pm. £15.95. 01865 810000.

**Frideswide Square, Oxford:** Until Aug 5, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Creation Theatre Company. Meet in groups of 10 and follow the clues. £25, £18, concessions £22. 7.30pm. 01865 766266.

**Oxford Castle Unlocked, 44-46 Oxford Castle, Oxford:** Until Jul 29, *Romeo and Juliet*. Tomahawk Theatre. 7.30pm. £16 and £13. 01865 260666.

**Old Schools Quadrangle, Bodleian Library, Oxford:** Until Jul 30, Aug 1-4, *Twelfth Night*. Playhouse Plays Out. 7.45pm. £24/£22. 01865 305305.

**Oxford Playhouse, Beaumont Street, Oxford:** Until Jul 29, *Around the World in 80 Days*. Various times. £12-25. 01865 305305.

**University Parks, Parks Road, Oxford:** Until Aug 19, *Alice*. Creation Theatre Company. 2pm. £25, £18, child £16, concessions £22, preview tickets £18. 01865 766266.

**Wadham College, Parks Road, Oxford:** Until Aug 19, *Much Ado About Nothing*. 7.30pm. £13-£24. 01865 305305.

**Amey Theatre, Park Road, Abingdon:** Jul 27, NT Live: *Angels in America Part 2 – Perestroika*. 7pm. £12 / £10. 01235 849063.

**The Beacon, Portway, Wantage:** Jul 27, NT Live: *Angels in America Part Two – Perestroika*. 7pm. £15 01235 763456.

**Chipping Norton Theatre, Spring Street, Chipping Norton:** Jul 28, *Arlene!* Choreographer to the stars, Arlene gossips with Jackie Storey about a lifetime in dance. 7.45pm. £15. 01608 642350.

**Cornerstone Arts Centre, Station Road, Didcot:** Jul 27, *The Girl who fell in love with the Moon*. 7.30pm. £11. 01235 515144.

**Unicorn Theatre, Checker Walk, Abingdon:** Jul 26-29, *Blithe Spirit*. Studio Theatre Club. 7.30pm/£12 (£10 u/16, o/65).



CakeSport

banburycake.co.uk/sport

Louis nets a late winner

Striker's free-kick delivers United victory

A LATE goal from Jefferson Louis gave Banbury United a 3-2 home victory over the Evo-Stik Southern League champions Chippenham Town in a friendly last Saturday.

With an entertaining game heading for a draw, the much-travelled striker fired a 20-yard free-kick into the bottom corner of the net to nick the win.

Banbury took the lead in the 12th minute when Louis's cross from the right was turned into his own net by Will Richards. The visitors equalised

penalty area hit a post.

Ten minutes from time Banbury's Under 18 player Ryan McDonald curled a shot from the left hand edge of the penalty area just wide, but then Louis settled it.

The day also saw Marvin Martin and Jacob Blackstock sign league forms for Banbury, bringing their number of registered players to 15.

The Puritans, who visited Rugby Town on Tuesday night, complete their pre-season at Swindon Supermarine this Saturday.

FOOTBALL

in the 34th minute, when Andy Sandell's low cross was struck home by Josh Morgan-Williams.

Louis fired against the crossbar before the break, but Chippenham went ahead five minutes into the second half when Dave Pratt fired past Jasko Keranovic from long range.

The Puritans were soon level, when Jack Self's cross to the far post was headed in by Darren Pond.

Dave Pratt went close to restoring Chippenham's lead when his shot from the edge of the Banbury



Jefferson Louis scored a late winner for Banbury United against Chippenham Town

Banbury's visit to leaders falls to downpour

CRICKET

LESS than ten overs were possible as Banbury's trip to Division 1 leaders Henley was abandoned.

The hosts were 28-2, with both wickets falling to Aizaz Cheema when the rain, which wiped out the entire Home Counties Premier League programme, arrived.

Banbury host Great & Little Tew on Saturday.

HENLEY									
M Roberts c Clarke b Cheema	.....	5							
J Davies not out.....	.....	9							
W Hussain c Hawtin b Cheema.....	.....	0							
E Woods not out.....	.....	9							
Extras.....	.....	5							
Total (2 wkts, 9.5 ovs).....	.....	28							
Fall: 1-15, 2-19.									
Bowling: Cheema 5-1-11-2, Taylor 4-5-1-13-0.									
Match abandoned - Henley 6pts, Banbury 6									
Division 1									
P	W	D	L	NR	Bon	Pts			
*Henley	12	6	3	2	1	31	195		
Finchampsstead	12	5	2	4	1	48	175		
High Wycombe	12	5	2	4	1	49	171		
*Banbury	12	5	3	3	1	30	168		
Horspath	12	5	2	4	1	36	158		
Oxford	12	4	2	4	2	47	150		
Tring Park	12	4	1	6	1	36	140		
Slough	12	3	3	4	2	50	136		
Great & L Tew	12	3	2	6	1	39	116		
+Burnham	12	3	2	6	1	51	73		

\*record includes tie

STARS with Claire Petulengro

Service provided by IMS Leeds LS1 8LB. Calls cost 60p per minute at all times

ARIES

Mar 21-Apr 19

Don't allow the problems in your life to slow and fester. Instead, work on a plan to deal with them head on. Your ruling planet Mars can and will give you all the confidence you need from Tuesday, so make your plans accordingly. A younger person needs your support, and it's vital that you are honest in your opinions with them. Ring now for a peek at what your destiny holds.

0906 585 4360

LIBRA

Sep 23-Oct 22

If you continue to try to guess the next move of your close ones, then you are going to end up red faced and embarrassed. You have been focusing on the negative when you should be focusing on the positive. Be the best version of you Libra and if that means saying goodbye to the person who brought you down, then so be it. Ring now to hear why I know you can make the impossible possible.

0906 585 4366

TAURUS

Apr 20-May 20

Someone who used to be a help is now becoming more of a hindrance. Ask yourself if their influence in your life makes you more unhappy than happy and you will soon get your answer as to whether you distance yourself or not. A touch of fame or even media links beckon in business. Embrace and enjoy. Ring now to hear how major career changes are not out of the question this year.

0906 585 4361

SCORPIO

Oct 23-Nov 21

The ideas you are having at this time are the basis for a really exciting future. You start to realise that you don't have to keep trying to please others, but that if you are happy, then others will be too. Visiting new places gives you fresh inspiration and ideas for the future, so make sure you accept. Ring now to hear why it's worth using old skills to gain the funds for new ideas. Ring now for insight.

0906 585 4367

GEMINI

May 21-Jun 20

Romance is well starred and you start to be more honest about what you do and do not want from your personal life. You thought you were alone, but this week you realise that you are not. You open up to those who want to give you support and it makes your life a better place to be. Ring now to hear why you can and should put down money for future travel plans.

0906 585 4362

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 22-Dec 21

Those you meet put the sparkle back into your life and you begin to look forward to the future instead of only focusing on the past. Lending money may not be the good idea it seems, as it is unlikely to be paid back when others say. Venus makes you more flirtatious this week, but bear in mind that your actions are unlikely to stay private. Ring now so we can talk relationship decisions.

0906 585 4368

CANCER

Jun 21-Jul 22

Your element of water is making it difficult for you not to read between the lines of what others say. I understand why you are nervous, but try not to blame new faces for the mistakes which those in your past made. It will take the fun out of what should be a really exciting time if you do. Ring to hear how animals could be the key to some of your most interesting introductions this month.

0906 585 4363

CAPRICORN

Dec 22-Jan 19

You can love someone and not like them, but where things progress from there depends on how you both handle your problems and differences. There seem to be other issues at play than just personality differences. Deal with them before you start to decide if you can continue a relationship Capricorn. Ring now to hear why it's worth doing financial figures again this week.

0906 585 4369

LEO

Jul 23-Aug 22

You enter a really dramatic phase of your life. It should not worry or scare you, but only excite you. Your sign is great at riding the wave of change and this month you get the chance to choose your path without the emotional weight of others upon you. Telling tales on those you work with will come back on you. Ring now to hear why I know they will expose themselves before you have to.

0906 585 4364

AQUARIUS

Jan 20-Feb 18

You are seeking fresh inspiration and hope, but those close to you seem to be sticking their heads in the sand. Make sure that you are clear about what you want from them or they will have no indication of which path is right and which is wrong. Promises you make to family for the weekend must be honoured. Ring now to hear why I'm so very proud of you.

0906 585 4370

VIRGO

Aug 23-Sep 22

If only you would tell it as it is instead of trying to say things to please others, then we would all be a lot happier. Saturn helps you to build the base which was lacking at the beginning of the year and you start to see with clarity who is good for your life and who has been dragging you down. Ring now to hear why you can and should lay down plans with the new faces you met recently.

0906 585 4365

PISCES

Feb 19-Mar 20

Many of your sign are going to be tempted to run with the wrong crowd. You find it hard to know which choices are the right ones. What is the hurry Pisces? I know, and so should you, that you can afford to take your time. Enjoying and living in the moment is what will make your life great again. Ring now so I can explain why I think you have been so emotional these last few weeks.

0906 585 4371

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# PROPERTY



Linden Lodge, above and bottom right, and residents enjoying a garden party at the sister complex in Cirencester, top right

## Retire to the garden with a jug of Pimm's

**Gill Oliver**  
goliver@nqo.com

RESIDENTS of Bicester are invited to a summer garden party at the town's Linden Lodge retirement development.

Visitors to the event on Thursday, August 3, from 2pm until 4pm, will be treated to a glass of Pimm's and live music from vintage-inspired musical duo Scarlet Swing, while

they relax in landscaped gardens. There will also be traditional ice cream served from a vintage ice cream bicycle and the opportunity to tour the Linden Lodge show apartment.

Tracy Evans, regional marketing executive for developer Churchill Retirement Living, said: "Our summer garden party is the perfect opportunity for local retirees, thinking of making a move to a more manageable home, to

experience the excellent lifestyle on offer at Linden Lodge.

"Visitors will be treated to a host of treats and great entertainment, as well as the opportunity to chat to our owners and meet our friendly sales team.

"We'd love to see as many people as possible from the local area coming along to join the party and see first-hand the wonderful community atmosphere."

Linden Lodge, in Linden Road,

includes partments with one or two bedrooms, for those who want independent living while downsizing, without the bother of maintenance chores.

Each apartment has been designed for residents in their retirement years, with several safety and security features, such as a 24-hour emergency call line and a video entry system.

There is also an on-site lodge manager, who oversees the running

of the development, and an owners' lounge, where people can relax with their neighbours, plus a regular programme of social events.

The development is close to public transport links, shops and Bicester's other amenities.

To find out more about the summer garden party on August 3, or to visit the show complex, see [churchillretirement.co.uk](http://churchillretirement.co.uk).

It is open daily from 10am to 5pm. Call 01869 722907 for information.

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We use high quality, local tradesmen to ensure your property is maintained and repaired to the highest possible standard, at a reasonable rate.

There are a number of benefits to a landlord when using a Martin & Co letting agent. These include:

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- Income - an agent can ensure you secure the right rental price for your property.
- Marketing - the property can be marketed extensively (using different promotional methods) especially with a national network like Martin & Co.
- Peace of mind - most tenants these days feel more secure when dealing with an agent. A good agent will fully reference tenants.







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St Mary's View

A 3 bedroom town house within walking distance to town center. Comprising: entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, C/R, family bathroom, 3 bedrooms with en-suite to master. Outside there is off road parking and rear courtyard garden.

£250,000 (Asking Price Of)



Bramble House

A four bedroom detached property with double garage situated to local schools; shops and amenities. The property comprises entrance hall; cloakroom, lounge, dining room, study, kitchen / breakfast, four bedrooms with en-suite to master, family bathroom, front and rear gardens.

£410,000



Spencer Court

A SECOND FLOOR ONE BEDROOM RETIREMENT APARTMENT. Entrance hall. Lounge/diner. Bathroom. Kitchen. Airing cupboard. Communal laundry and all water usage. Communal gardens. Allocated parking.

£115,000



Peoples Place

A large two bedroom apartment with allocated parking. Entrance hall open plan kitchen and living room. The property benefits from integrated appliances. There are two double bedrooms with fitted wardrobes. Good size bathroom with bath and shower and WC. Situated within walking distance to the town centre and train station.

£182,500





# MARTIN&CO

## LETTINGS

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### Causeway

Martin and Co Banbury are pleased to offer this two bedroom mid terraced property, with close proximity to train station and town centre. The property comprises; kitchen, lounge, bathroom, two bedrooms. There is on road parking, and a small garden to the rear of the property. Suitable for single or professional couple.

**£750 pcm**



### Cricketers Fields

Martin & Co are pleased to present a selection of new two bedroom luxury apartments situated within walking distance to the train station and town centre. Available unfurnished with off road parking. Don't miss out on the chance to rent in a brand new development. Available for viewings from 27th May.

**£795 pcm**



### Twyford Road

A three bedroom semi detached house situated in Twyford. The property has been renovated with a new kitchen; bathroom; carpets; appliances and redecorated throughout. The property has an entrance hall; living room; kitchen with fridge freezer and washing machine and cooker; bathroom, with a separate utility area. It has two double bedrooms and a third single bedroom.

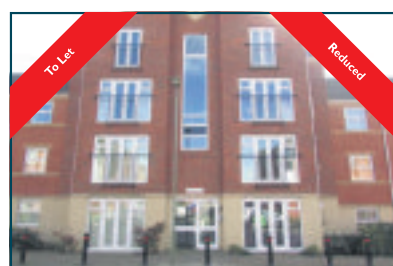
**£1050 pcm**



### 7 Tarragon Walk

A spacious two bedroom apartment on the Hanwell Fields estate. This property benefits from two double bedrooms and allocated parking and a garage. Fully fitted kitchen and spacious lounge. Double bedrooms. Good access for M40 links. Walking distance to the shops and schools. EPC rating: C

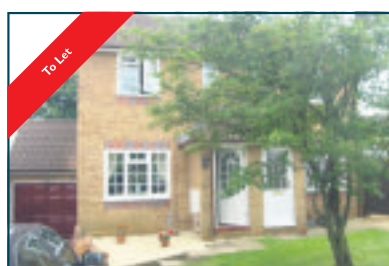
**£825 pcm**



### Purston House

Martin & Co are pleased to present a new to the market first floor two bedroom unfurnished apartment situated conveniently for the town centre and train station. The property comprises; hallway; kitchen; living room; two double bedrooms; the master bedroom has an ensuite shower. EPC rating B

**£750 pcm**



### Hereford Way

A new to the market 2 bedroom semi detached 2 bedroom house with garden and garage. The property comprises kitchen; living room; bathroom; two bedrooms; garage and driveway parking.

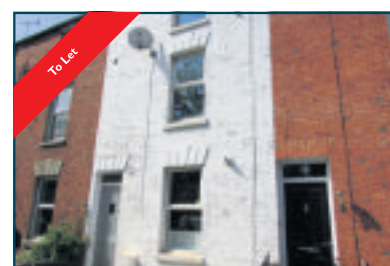
**£825 pcm**



### Hereford Way

A new to the market three bedroom spacious bungalow with good size garden; plenty of parking and a garage. Conveniently situated in Hardwick for access to the town centre; local schools and shops. EPC Rating D.

**£950 pcm**



### Broughton Road

Martin & Co are pleased to present a new to the market one bedroom room in a shared house conveniently situated within walking distance to the town centre and train station. The room benefits from a kitchenette area also. Ideal for a single professional.

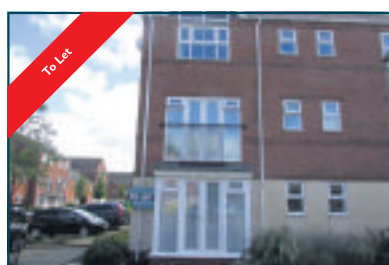
**£500 pcm**



### 30 Ivatt Walk

We are pleased to present a spacious two bed maisonette which comprises; entrance hall; fully fitted kitchen with cooker; washing machine and fridge freezer; living room; upstairs there are two double bedrooms and bathroom with bath and shower; separate WC. The property has allocated parking and is conveniently situated within walking distance to the town centre and train station.

**£750 pcm**



### Verney Road

We are pleased to present a new to the market two bedroom ground floor flat with allocated parking and within walking distance to the train station and town centre. Spacious hallway entrance leads to two double bedrooms.

**£795 pcm**



### Broome Way

A two bedroom flat within walking distance to the town centre and train station.

**£740 pcm**



### Broome Way

A spacious two double bedroom flat within walking distance to the town centre and train station. Open plan kitchen and living room. Available unfurnished. Allocated parking available. EPC Rating D.

**£725 pcm**



### Booth Road

A fantastic two bedroom house available in Hanwell Fields. The property comprises; kitchen; living room; bathroom with bath and shower and two bedrooms. Allocated parking and close to local shops and schools and excellent transport links.

**£850 pcm**



### 18 Wellington

Martin & Co are pleased to present a new to the market three bedroom house conveniently situated within walking distance to the town centre and train station. The property comprises kitchen with cooker; separate living room; upstairs there are three bedrooms (2 doubles and one single); family bathroom with bath and shower. EPC Rating C

**£975**



### Butterbur Gardens

We are pleased to present this, new to the market three bedroom house, in Bicester. This is an ideal family home and would suit a professional couple.

**£1150 pcm**



### Booth Road

A fantastic two bedroom house available in Hanwell Fields. The property comprises; kitchen; living room; bathroom with bath and shower and two bedrooms. Allocated parking and close to local shops and schools and excellent transport links.

**£850 pcm**





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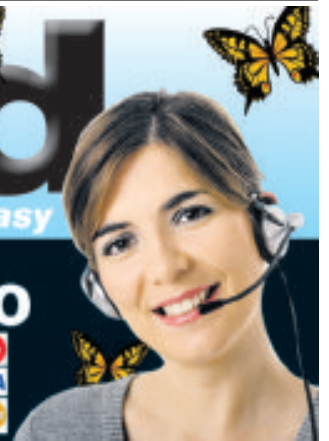
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## 5 ENTERTAINMENTS

### Entertainments

**Burford Antiques Fair**  
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Art ~ Design ~ Antiques  
10am - 5pm. Enq 07774 850044  
£3.50 or Free tickets on [www.burfordantiquesfair.co.uk](http://www.burfordantiquesfair.co.uk)

## 8 PUBLIC NOTICES

### Announcements - Public Notices

**OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**  
**SECTION 14(1)**  
Notice of Temporary Traffic Order  
Shutford, Epwell Road  
Prohibition of Through Traffic  
Date of Order: 24 July 2017  
Coming into force: 7 August 2017  
This Order is being introduced because of water pipe replacement works which are anticipated to take 5 weeks to complete. The effect of the Order is to temporarily prohibit any vehicle proceeding in Epwell Road between the junctions of Sibford Road and The Rickyard.  
Appropriate traffic signs will be displayed to indicate when the closure is in force. Exemptions are included for emergency services and for the works and for access to premises which are only accessible from the closed section of road. The alternative route for traffic is via Rattlecombe Road, The Plain Road, Banbury Road, High Street and vice-versa.  
This Order will remain in force for a maximum period of 18 months or until the works have been completed whichever is the sooner.  
Traffic Regulations Team (Ref T4936/AC) for the Director for Infrastructure Delivery, County Hall, Oxford OX1 1ND. 0345 310 1111.

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## Find your forte in foster caring

There's no better feeling than doing a job where you really make a difference and you can find organisations actively seeking people who have the ability to transform lives. To join them you don't need a degree or a track record of doing anything similar.

As long as you're over 21 you can be considered for what is arguably the most important job of all – providing a safe and happy home for children. Anyone with an ounce of compassion will feel sympathy for children who, for whatever reason, are unable to live with their parents, but it takes a special kind of person to welcome those children into their own homes. Yet many people do take this step and embark on the chal-

lenging, but hugely rewarding journey of becoming a foster carer. Helen Anderson from Glasgow became a foster carer more than a decade ago and in that time she has cared for more than 20 children.

She frequently opens her home and her heart to very young children and says nothing gives her greater satisfaction than seeing them return to their own parents or find a new home with adoptive parents. "It is always hard to say goodbye, but I keep in touch with many of them and just love to see them thriving," she says. Caroline Watson, who spent five years working for a fostering organisation, says that foster parents come in all guises and some of the best have

structures in place that help them to care for a certain kind of young person. "One of our most successful carers was wonderful with teenage boys, many of whom had spent a long time in care and had challenging behaviours."

She was kind and caring and her no-nonsense approach gave these young men the boundaries that had been lacking in their lives. "As a result they were able to fulfil their potential and turn into well-adjusted and positive adults." Fostering is managed by local authorities, children's charities and other specialist organisations and all of them offer support for people thinking of becoming carers. They are happy to talk with anyone who is consid-



ering taking the first step and will set out the path towards helping children in need of a warm and se-

cure home environment for just a few days or weeks or for the rest of their childhood.



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For further details information please contact

Emma Lovelock

[emma.lovelock@theredway.net](mailto:emma.lovelock@theredway.net)

Visits to the school are welcomed.

Closing Date: 15th September 2017

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